

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. LEAHY (by request):

S. 2783. A bill entitled the "21st Century Law Enforcement and Public Safety Act"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 2784. A bill entitled "Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Act of 2000"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BREAUX:

S. 2785. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on glyoxylic acid; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DASCHLE (for Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 2786. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a plan to rehabilitate Going-to-the-Sun Road located in Glacier National Park, Montana, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. KOHL, Mr. ROTH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. TORRICELLI, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. DEWINE, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. ASHCROFT, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. REID, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. REED, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. DODD, Mr. L. CHAFEE, Mr. KERRY, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. ROBB, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. BRYAN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BYRD, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. KERREY, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. BAYH, Mr. GRAHAM, and Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 2787. A bill to reauthorize the Federal programs to prevent violence against women, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COCHRAN:

S. 2788. A bill to establish a strategic planning team to develop a plan for the dissemination of research on reading; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. COCHRAN:

S. 2789. A bill to amend the Congressional Award Act to establish a Congressional Recognition for Excellence in Arts Education Board; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. FITZGERALD:

S. 2790. A bill instituting a Federal fuels tax holiday; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON:

S. 2791. A bill instituting a Federal fuels tax suspension; to the Committee on Finance.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. LEAHY:

S. 2783. A bill entitled the "21st Century Law Enforcement and Public Safety Act"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

THE 21ST CENTURY LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY ACT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee

on the Judiciary, I am pleased to introduce at the request of the Administration "The 21st Century Law Enforcement and Public Safety Act." This bill reflects the continuing aggressive approach of this Administration and this Department of Justice, under the leadership of Attorney General Janet Reno, to keep the both the violent and property crime rates in this country going down.

Under the Attorney General's leadership and the programs established by the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, the nation's serious crime rate has declined for eight straight years. We are seeing the lowest recorded rates in many years. Murder rates have fallen to their lowest levels in three decades. Even juvenile crime rates have also been falling. According to the FBI's latest crime statistics release, on May 7, 2000, in just the last year, there has been a seven percent decline in reported serious violent and property crime from 1998 totals. Both murder and robbery registered eight percent drops, while forcible rape and aggravated assault figures each declined by seven percent from 1998. This is cause for commendation for the Attorney General and our Federal, State and local law enforcement officers, to whom all Americans owe an enormous thanks for a job well done.

This Administration has not rested on its laurels, however. Instead, the Administration has crafted the bill I introduce on their behalf today. It contains a number of good ideas to which the Judiciary Committee and the Congress should pay attention. Unfortunately, the Committee and the Congress has spent more time on symbolic issues, such as a proposed amendments to the Constitution to protect the flag and crime victims than to other concrete steps we could take to combat crime and school violence. Indeed, the majority in Congress has stalled any conference action on the Hatch-Leahy juvenile justice legislation, S. 254, which passed the Senate by a substantial majority in May, 1999.

The Administration's bill contains five titles focusing on various aspects of crime. Title I contains proposals for supporting local law enforcement and promoting crime-fighting technologies, including expanding the purpose of COPS grants by funding an increase in the number of prosecutors as well as police; authorizing grants to improve the technology used for investigations in underserved rural areas—less than 25,000 people; and extending the Leahy-Campbell Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act.

Title II contains many proposals for breaking the cycle of drugs and violence. Title III would promote investigative and prosecutorial tools for fighting terrorism and international crime. Title IV would reauthorize cer-

tain VAWA programs and provide other assistance to victims of crime and consumer fraud. In addition, this title contains important proposals to prevent and punish abuse and neglect of the elderly and other residents in nursing homes and health care facilities and environmental crimes. The last title would strengthen federal criminal laws to combat white collar crime, including in correction facilities and involving the theft of government property.

While I have concerns with certain parts of the bill, such as proposals for increases in mandatory minimum penalties, a new death penalty provision and broad administrative subpoena authority, I support many other parts, such as the Extension of Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act to assist law enforcement in Vermont and across the nation obtain bulletproof vests and stay safe on the job.

Again, I commend the Attorney General and the Administration for this important legislation and their efforts to keep Americans safe from crime.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 2784. A bill entitled "Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Act of 2000"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SANTA ROSA AND SAN JACINTO MOUNTAINS NATIONAL MONUMENT ACT OF 2000

• Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce this bill today to designate the Santa Rosa/San Jacinto mountain range in southern California as a National Monument. This bill was introduced by Congresswoman MARY BONO earlier in the year. An almost identical version of this bill was passed out of the House Resources Committee earlier in the week.

The Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains contain nationally significant biological, cultural, recreational, geological, educational, and scientific values. This includes magnificent vistas, unique wildlife and mountains which rise from the desert floor to an elevation of almost eleven thousand feet. These mountains provide a picturesque backdrop for Coachella Valley communities and support a wide array of recreational opportunities.

The bill designates this environmentally sensitive area as a monument and instructs the Department of Interior and the Forest Service to craft a management plan. The bill protects the rights of individual land owners, Native American tribes, and all lands outside the monument boundary. It protects the environment and preserves property rights. The bill has bipartisan support and supported by most of the local community.

This bill is quite timely. Three hundred and fifty-five thousand acres of the Sequoia National Forest were designated a national monument by President Clinton on April 15. Over the